



# IDAHO POTATOES



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## **IDAHO PRODUCTION DOWN 8 PERCENT**

Idaho's 2003 potato production is expected to total 123 million cwt, down 8 percent from last year's 133 million cwt. Planted acres of 360,000 and harvested acres of 358,000 are unchanged from previously set estimates. A statewide yield of 344 cwt (field-run basis) is down 14 cwt from a year ago. Yield in the 10 Southwestern counties, at 465 cwt, is up 10 cwt from 2002. Total production in this area is estimated at 11.6 million cwt from 25,000 harvested acres. In Idaho's "other counties," yield is estimated at 335 cwt, compared to 350 cwt a year ago. Area production from 333,000 harvested acres is expected to total 112 million cwt, 8 percent below last year's 121 million cwt.

Planting of Idaho's 2003 crop was completed with few delays under favorable weather conditions. The crop developed rapidly under mild spring conditions. However, the summer brought hot, dry weather to the State and size was affected in many areas. Harvest was completed on schedule with few delays or problems.

## **UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS**

Nationally, production of fall potatoes for 2003 is forecast at 414 million cwt, virtually unchanged from last year but 5 percent greater than the 2001 crop. Area harvested, at 1.09 million acres, is virtually unchanged from the July estimate but down 1 percent from last year. The average yield is forecast at 378 cwt per acre, 5 cwt above last year and 11 cwt greater than the 2001 season.

Western States production is forecast at 276 million cwt, down 5 percent from last year but 4 percent above 2001. Acreage harvested, at 663,300 acres, decreased 4 percent from last year, and the average yield of 416 cwt per acre is down 5 cwt from 2002. California's production is down 19 percent due to hot weather and poor seed quality which also reduced yields. Colorado's production decreased 15 percent as farmers reduced planted acreage to conserve underground water supplies following drought conditions during the past two years. Idaho's production decreased 8 percent from last year due to above normal summer temperatures which adversely affected tuber development. Higher yields in Washington, due to excellent growing conditions, increased production 4 percent from last season. Washington harvest was 100 percent complete by the first week of November. Production fell 16 percent in Oregon where drought conditions prevailed all summer, severely reducing topsoil moisture and resulting in lower yields.

Central States production is forecast at 109 million cwt, up 12 percent from last year and 7 percent above 2001. Harvested area, estimated at 327,000 acres, is up 4 percent and the average yield of 334 cwt per acre is up 24 cwt from a year ago. Indiana is the only State in the Central Region with decreased production and that by 7 percent. The other 7 States, when compared with last season, increased production ranging from 3 percent in South Dakota to 43 percent in Ohio.

Eastern States production is forecast at 28.6 million cwt, up 10 percent from last year and 8 percent above two years ago. Area for harvest totaled 104,500 acres, 1 percent above last year, and the average yield, at 273 cwt per acre, is up 22 cwt from last season. Maine production is up less than 1 percent from last year, while Massachusetts is down 6 percent. Production in New York and Rhode Island rose 18 percent and 14 percent, respectively, from last year. Pennsylvania had the largest percentage increase in production, at 59 percent, due to drought conditions in 2002 which made yields lower than usual last year.

Don Gerhardt  
State Statistician

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# FALL POTATOES - PRODUCTION FORECAST NOVEMBER 1, 2003

States	Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
	<u>1,000 Acres</u>		<u>Cwt</u>		<u>1,000 Cwt</u>		
WINTER <sup>1/</sup>	15.7	14.3	268	282	4,115	4,206	4,027
SPRING <sup>1/</sup>	86.1	82.9	271	269	21,814	23,294	22,305
SUMMER <sup>1/</sup>	59.1	60.5	304	320	18,209	17,985	19,360
FALL							
California	8.2	8.4	520	410	1,424	4,264	3,444
Colorado	71.5	65.7	390	360	21,357	27,885	23,652
<b>IDAHO, ALL</b>	<b>373.0</b>	<b>358.0</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>120,200</b>	<b>133,385</b>	<b>123,180</b>
- 10 SW Counties	27.0	25.0	455	465	10,350	12,285	11,625
- Other Areas	346.0	333.0	350	335	109,850	121,100	111,555
Indiana	2.8	2.7	260	250	928	728	675
Maine	64.0	65.5	265	260	16,430	16,960	17,030
Massachusetts	3.2	2.8	255	275	742	816	770
Michigan	45.5	45.0	305	325	13,950	13,878	14,625
Minnesota	55.0	58.0	340	385	18,425	18,700	22,330
Montana	10.4	10.6	310	320	3,296	3,224	3,392
Nebraska	21.8	23.0	395	400	8,400	8,611	9,200
Nevada	7.6	8.0	350	420	2,340	2,660	3,360
New Mexico	4.0	4.0	400	390	1,428	1,600	1,560
New York	22.0	21.7	250	300	5,942	5,500	6,510
North Dakota	102.0	112.0	230	240	26,400	23,460	26,880
Ohio	4.2	4.3	215	300	1,097	903	1,290
Oregon, ALL	49.8	42.6	501	493	20,730	24,936	20,991
- Malheur, Co.	8.0	5.8	400	415	3,690	3,200	2,407
- Other Areas	41.8	36.8	520	505	17,040	21,736	18,584
Pennsylvania	14.0	14.0	185	295	3,173	2,590	4,130
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	235	270	140	118	135
South Dakota	1.1	1.0	300	340	648	330	340
Utah	0.8	1.0	305	335	345	244	335
Washington	165.0	165.0	560	580	94,400	92,400	95,700
Wisconsin	83.0	81.0	375	420	31,955	31,125	34,020
TOTAL FALL	1,109.4	1,094.8	373	378	393,750	414,317	413,549
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>1,270.3</b>	<b>1,252.5</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>437,888</b>	<b>459,802</b>	<b>459,241</b>

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

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